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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS

VOL. 31

MAY 5, 1916

No. 18

DISEASE AND WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW.

RHODE ISLAND COURT ALLOWS COMPENSATION FOR AN ACCIDENT WHICH WAS DUE TO DIZZINESS RESULTING FROM DISEASE.

The Supreme Court of Rhode Island has decided that an injury resulting from a fall which was partly "due to dizziness or unconsciousness induced by a disease" was an injury "arising out of and in the course of" employment, for which the employee was entitled to compensation under the workmen's compensation law. (See p. 1147 of this issue of the Public Health Reports.)

The injured employee was a hack driver who was suffering from "hardening of the arteries and Bright's disease." He fell from the seat of a hack which he was driving and was seriously injured.

SMALLPOX IN GERMANY.

OCCURRENCE DURING THE YEARS 1911, 1912, AND 1913.

[Abstracted from *Medizinal-Statistische Mitteilungen aus dem Kaiserlichen Gesundheitsamte*, vols. 16 and 17.]

During the year 1911 there occurred in the German Empire, as shown by the report cards received by the Imperial Bureau of Health, 288 cases of smallpox. Of this number, 35, or 12.15 per cent, terminated fatally, as compared with 14.41 per cent in 1910, and 13.62 per cent in the period from 1896 to 1910. Of the cases, 119, or 41.32 per cent, were of foreigners, of whom 97 were from Russia, 7 from Austria-Hungary, 5 from Italy, 4 from the Netherlands, 2 from the United States of America, and 1 each from England, Sweden, Roumania, and South America. The mortality among the foreign cases was 13.45 per cent, and among the native cases 12.43 per cent. The proportion of cases per 1,000,000 inhabitants was 4.40 (preceding year, 3.66), including foreigners; exclusive of foreigners, 2.58 (preceding year, 2.03).

In 1912 there were reported to the Imperial Health Bureau 340 cases of smallpox. Of these cases, 35, or 10.29 per cent, terminated

fatally. Of the 340 cases, 153, or 45 per cent, were among foreigners, viz, 110 Russians, 28 Austrians, 8 Italians, 2 Danes, 2 Africans, 1 Swiss, 1 Greek, and 1 Brazilian. Of the foreign cases, 10, or 6.54 per cent, terminated fatally; of the native cases, 25, or 13.37 per cent, ended fatally. The proportion to 1,000,000 inhabitants, including foreign cases, was 5.13; exclusive of foreign cases the proportion of smallpox cases to 1,000,000 inhabitants was 2.82.

During the year 1913 there were notified 90 cases of smallpox. This is the lowest number of smallpox cases reported in any year since 1896, when the collecting of uniform smallpox statistics was begun in Germany, except that for the year 1897, when 45 cases were reported. Of the 90 cases notified in 1913, 12, or 13.33 per cent, ended fatally. Of the cases, 39, or 43.33 per cent, were in foreigners—29 from Russia, 3 each from Austria and Spain, and 1 each from Italy, the Netherlands, Turkey, and the United States of America. Of the foreign cases, 5, or 12.82 per cent, ended fatally; of the native cases, 7, or 13.73 per cent. The proportion to 1,000,000 inhabitants of the German Empire was, including the foreign cases, 1.34; exclusive of the foreign cases the proportion was 0.76.

Distribution of Cases by Age.

Year of life.	1911	1912	1913
1.....	14	10	5
2.....	11	7	3
3-10.....	28	22	7
11-20.....	72	92	27
21-30.....	35	61	12
31-40.....	32	31	8
41-50.....	39	36	6
51-60.....	29	41	15
60 and over.....	28	40	7
Total.....	288	340	90

Distribution of Cases by Sex.

	1911	1912	1913
Male.....	154	168	52
Female.....	134	172	38
Total.....	288	340	90

Course of the Disease with Reference to Vaccination Status.

1911.

Vaccination status of persons attacked.	Cases.	Deaths.	Fatal-ity rate per 100 cases.	Course of the disease.					
				Severe or medium.		Light.		Not known.	
				Cases.	Per cent of total.	Cases.	Per cent of total.	Cases.	Per cent of total.
Unvaccinated.....	53	18	34.0	19	35.8	15	28.3	1	1.9
Vaccinated without result...	3	2	66.7	2	66.7	1	33.3		
Vaccinated too late.....	8	2	25.0	4	50.0	2	25.0		
Vaccinated once.....	94	5	5.3	25	26.6	64	68.1		
Revaccinated too late.....	15	2	13.3	3	20.0	12	80.0		
Revaccinated.....	99	2	2.0	28	28.3	69	69.7		
Vaccination status unknown.	16	10	62.5	1	6.3	5	31.3		
Total.....	288	37	12.8	82	28.5	168	58.3	1	.3

1912.

Unvaccinated.....	41	13	31.70	14	34.15	14	34.15		
Vaccinated without result...	6			3	50.00	3	50.00		
Vaccinated too late.....	18	2	11.11	4	22.22	12	66.67		
Vaccinated once.....	112	5	4.46	29	25.89	76	67.86	2	1.79
Revaccinated too late.....	24	2	8.33	3	12.50	19	79.17		
Revaccinated.....	126	6	4.76	27	21.43	93	73.81		
Vaccination status unknown.	13	7	53.85	2	15.38	4	30.77		
Total.....	340	35	10.29	82	24.12	221	65.00	2	.59

1913.

Unvaccinated.....	19	8	42.11	7	36.84	4	21.05		
Vaccinated too late.....	1					1	100.00		
Vaccinated once.....	29			10	34.48	19	65.52		
Revaccinated too late.....	3	1	33.33	1	33.33	1	33.33		
Revaccinated.....	36	2	5.56	4	11.11	30	83.33		
Vaccination status unknown.	2	1	50.00	1	50.00				
Total.....	90	12	13.33	23	25.56	55	61.11		

Seasonal Prevalence.

Month.	1911	1912	1913
January.....	5	20	5
February.....	6	19	6
March.....	47	65	29
April.....	104	97	25
May.....	47	66	15
June.....	37	21	2
July.....	13	8	3
August.....	3	3	3
September.....	9	5	
October.....	8		1
November.....	6	25	
December.....	3	11	1
Total.....	288	340	90

Distribution by Federal States.

1911.—Of the 288 cases, 229 occurred in Prussia, 24 in the Kingdom of Saxony, 9 in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 3 in Saxe-Weimar, 2 in Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 6 in Brunswick, 1 in Anhalt, 1 in Lübeck, 4

in Bremen, and 9 in Hamburg. The remaining 15 Federal States and Alsace-Lorraine were not attacked by smallpox.

1912.—The occurrence in the Federal States was distributed as follows: Prussia, 169 cases; Bavaria, 5 cases; Kingdom of Saxony, 11 cases; Württemberg, 46 cases; Baden, 73 cases; Hesse, 9 cases; Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 4 cases; Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 1 case; Brunswick, 1 case; Anhalt, 4 cases; Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, 6 cases; Bremen, 3 cases; Hamburg, 6 cases; and Alsace-Lorraine, 2 cases.

1913.—The cases were distributed in the several Federal States as follows: Prussia, 57; Württemberg, 12; Baden, 1; Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 9; Anhalt, 2; Bremen, 6; Hamburg, 3. In the remaining 18 Federal States and in Alsace-Lorraine no case of smallpox was notified during the year 1913.

Localities Invaded.

1911.—In Prussia smallpox cases occurred in 110 localities, 1 case each being notified in 74 localities; 2 cases each in 15 localities; 3 cases each in 5 localities; 4 cases each in 7 localities; 5 cases each in 3 localities; and in addition, 7 cases in Karlsdorf, district of Breslau; 10 cases each in Landeshut, district of Liegnitz, and Poseritz, district of Breslau; 11 cases in Seelow, district of Frankfort; 13 cases in Fellhammer, district of Breslau; and 16 cases in Petersdorf, district of Breslau.

In the territorial divisions of the Empire outside of Prussia the distribution was as follows:

Kingdom of Saxony, 24 cases in 9 localities; Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 9 cases in 6 localities; Saxe-Weimar, 1 case each in 3 localities (total, 3); Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 1 case each in 2 localities (total, 2); Brunswick, 6 cases in 3 localities; Bremen, 4 cases in 2 localities (city of Bremen 3 cases); Anhalt and Lübeck, each 1 case; Hamburg, 9 cases.

The 288 cases occurred in 138 localities, with an average occurrence in any one locality of 2.09 as against 2 in the year 1910 and 2.54 in the period from 1896 to 1910.

1912.—In Prussia the cases occurred in 87 localities, as follows: In 58 localities, 1 case each; in 15 localities, 2 cases each; in 4 localities, 3 cases each; in 3 localities, 4 cases each; in 2 localities, 5 cases each; in addition, at Ekelenz (Government district of Aix), 6 cases; Halberstadt (Government district of Magdeburg), 7 cases; at Piotrowo (Government district of Posen) and at Liegnitz (Government district of Liegnitz), each 11 cases; and at Frankfort on the Main (Government district of Wiesbaden), 12 cases.

In divisions of the Empire outside of Prussia the cases were distributed as follows: Bavaria, 5 cases in 3 localities; in the Kingdom of Saxony, 11 cases in 8 localities; in Württemberg, 46 cases in 12

localities; in Baden, 73 cases in 10 localities; in Hesse, 9 cases in 6 localities; in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 4 cases in 2 localities; in Mecklenburg-Strelitz and in Brunswick, 1 case each; in Anhalt, 4 cases in 4 localities; in Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, 6 cases in 2 localities; in the city of Bremen, 3 cases; in the city of Hamburg, 6 cases; and in Alsace-Lorraine, 2 cases in 1 locality.

The 340 cases occurred in 139 localities in all, making an average occurrence of 2.45 per cent in 1 place affected as against 2.09 in the preceding year.

1913.—In Prussia the 57 cases occurred in 30 localities as follows: In 23 localities, 1 case each; in 1 locality, 2 cases; in 3 localities, each 4 cases; and in Münster in Westphalia (Government district of Münster), 6 cases; in Zalenze (Government district of Oppeln) and in Ehsel (Government district of Münster), each 7 cases. Excluding the Provinces situated on the Russian frontier, Allenstein, Bromberg, Marienwerder, and Oppeln, in which in all 20 cases were notified in 11 localities, the only localities attacked by the disease were the city of Berlin with 4 cases, the Government district of Münster with 18 cases in 4 localities, Köslin and Magdeburg each with 3 cases in 3 localities, Merseburg and Hildesheim each with 2 cases in 2 localities, Stettin with 2 cases in 1 locality, Potsdam and Frankfort each with 1 case, and Coblenz with 1 case.

In the Federal States affected, outside of Prussia, and in Bremen and Hamburg, cases occurred as follows: Württemberg, 12 cases in 5 localities; Baden, 1 case; Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 9 cases in 4 localities; Anhalt, 2 cases in 2 localities; in Bremen, 6 cases, of which 5 occurred in the city of Bremen and 1 in a locality in the surrounding country; and in the city of Hamburg, 3 cases.

The 90 cases were distributed in 45 localities, the average being 2 cases in 1 locality as against 2.45 in the year 1912, 2.09 in the year 1911, and 2.54 in the 15-year period from 1896 to 1910.

Miscellaneous Epidemiologic Notes.

1911.—From 8 cases which were removed to hospital there were, as the result of imperfect isolation, 25 contact infections.

Smallpox occurred among disinfectors as follows: At Goslar, Government district of Hildesheim, in a 41-year-old disinfecter, last vaccinated at 12 years of age. At Fulda, Government district of Cassel, in a 51-year-old disinfecter, last vaccinated at 12 years of age. At Wiedigshof, Government district of Brunswick, in a 47-year-old disinfecter, last vaccinated as a soldier at 21 years of age.

1912.—Removal to hospital occurred in 72 of the cases. In 45 cases the disease occurred in persons under treatment for other causes or under observation or in hospital service or inmates of institutions.

In three cases the patients had apparently suffered from a previous attack of smallpox. In the case of a 19-year-old Russian, who had had smallpox in childhood, the face showed pockmarks; another Russian, 18 or 19 years old, who had apparently had the disease, showed no marks. The third case was in an unvaccinated physician who, in the year 1871, when between 1 year and 2 years of age, suffered from an attack of smallpox. Sixteen of the cases were in former soldiers, of whom two died of the disease. Four of the remaining 14 patients whose military service had been completed 40, 39, 30, and 25 years previously had the disease severely; 10 had the disease in a light form.

An unusually large number of cases occurred in persons over 50 years of age. Whereas during the 15-year period from 1896 to 1910, of 3,574 patients whose ages were known, only 464, or 13 per cent, had reached the age of 50; during the year 1912, 81 of the 340 cases, or 23.8 per cent, were in that class. The mortality among the 81 persons over 50 years of age was 22.22 per cent; among the remaining 259 cases the mortality was only 6.56 per cent.

Two of the cases occurred among attending physicians.

In 46 cases infection occurred in hospitals, 24 of the cases being in a district charitable institution.

1913.—In almost all cases the origin of the disease was traced to a source outside of Germany. The number of persons arriving in Germany already suffering from smallpox or infected with the disease was 27.

In five cases the infection occurred in hospital.

The mortality from the disease was considerably higher among the unvaccinated than among the vaccinated and revaccinated. The light forms of the disease were considerably more frequent in vaccinated and revaccinated persons, when these were attacked, than in unvaccinated persons.

PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following report of plague-eradication work at New Orleans for the week ended April 15, 1916, was received from Surg. Creel, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work: